

CLAIMS

1. (Currently amended) Toothbrush comprising an elongated, rectangular, or round bristle array (1), which is formed from individual bristle bundles (4) or bristle tufts arranged next to each other on a brush body (2) and extending away from the body, at least some of the bristle bundles (4) on a use end facing away from the brush body (2) are at least partially beveled relative to a plane extending approximately parallel to the brush body (2), such that bristles of the at least some of the bristle bundles (4) extend at different lengths, so that terminal surfaces arranged at the use ends of the at least some of the bristle bundles (4) are formed as inclined surfaces (5), wherein the at least some of the bristle bundles (4) are arranged adjacent to each other along imaginary straight or arc-shaped connecting lines and each of the at least some of the bristle bundles (4) of the bristle array (1) with the inclined surfaces (5) [[are]] is arranged rotated relative to each adjacent one of the bristle bundles of the bristle array having the inclined surfaces (5), with adjacent ones of the inclined surfaces facing rotation directions that are different from 90° and 180° relative to each other.

2. (Currently amended) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein at least half of the bristle bundles of the bristle array include the inclined surfaces and are rotated relative to the connecting lines by differing angles that deviate from 90° and 180°.

3. (Canceled).

4. (Previously presented) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein at least some of the bristle bundles (4) spaced apart by other ones of the bristle bundles (4) located in-between are arranged with their inclined surfaces (5) rotated relative to each other by 90° or 180°.

5. (Currently amended) Toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein in the bristle array (1), the bristle bundles (4) provided with the inclined surfaces (5) ~~or diagonal surfaces~~ and bristle bundles (4a) with approximately horizontal, rounded, and/or pointed use surfaces are combined with each other and such differently shaped ones of the bristle bundles (4a) within the bristle array (1) are directly adjacent to each other and/or are arranged as groups, within said groups equivalent or similar bristle bundles (4a) are combined, wherein within at least one group of the bristle bundles (4) with inclined surfaces (5) are arranged, which are arranged opposite each other or rotated relative to their imaginary connecting lines by angles that are different from 90° or 180°.

6. (Currently amended) Toothbrush according to Claim 5, wherein one or two regions of the bristle array ~~, for an elongated bristle array especially the regions of the bristle array at a distance from each other in a longitudinal direction,~~ are provided with the bristle bundles (4a), whose ends are rounded, pointed, or are provided with a straight terminal surface or contoured in a different way, and between the groups of bristle bundles (4) there is at least one group with bristle bundles, which are beveled or shaped like a roof and which are at least partially rotated relative to each other.

7. (Previously presented) Toothbrush according to claim 1, wherein at least some of the bristle bundles are arranged on an outer circle and other ones of the bristle bundles are arranged in an interior of the outer circle, wherein the bristle bundles (4) arranged on the outer circle and/or in the interior of the outer circle have the inclined surface (5) on free ends thereof and are at least partially arranged rotated relative to the circle, on which they are arranged, by different angles, so that the inclined surfaces (5) point partially towards a center of the bristle array (1), partially outwards, partially in a circumferential direction, or in intermediate positions.

8. (Currently amended) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein the bristle bundles of the bristle array provided with the inclined surfaces are arranged rotated relative to each other, such that planes extending through the inclined surfaces of bristle bundles (4) that are adjacent or arranged in a common row intersect one another and form an angular space with each other.

9. (Previously presented) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein a length of the individual bristle bundles (4, 4a) projecting relative to the brush body is approximately the same size and that of others is different.

10. (Currently amended) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein inclination angles of the inclined surfaces (5) formed at the ends of the bristle bundles (4) are equal ~~or different, at least for individual bristle bundles (4),~~ relative to other ones of the bristle bundles.

11. (Currently amended) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein a cross section of the bristle bundles (4, 4a) is approximately circular ~~or deviates from a circle.~~

12. (Previously presented) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein a cross section of at least some of the individual bristle bundles (4, 4a) is polygonal or rectangular, or square, and the inclined surfaces (5) arranged at the end of individual bristle bundles (4) is polygonal or rectangular, wherein sides of the polygon or rectangle in a vertical projection of the bristle bundles (4) overlap one another or are rotated relative to each other, such that a highest point of the inclined surface (5) is shorter than a side length of the polygon or rectangle and is arranged at one corner of the polygonal or rectangular cross-sectional bristle bundle.

13. (Currently amended) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein the inclined surfaces (5) of the at least some of bristle bundle (4) are curved convexly ~~or concavely~~ in one or more directions.

14. (Previously presented) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein the at least some of the bristle bundles (4, 4a) arranged next to each other project at different distances from the brush body (2) or have different lengths, wherein equal-length bristle bundles (4) are arranged within individual rows and the inclined surfaces (5) of the bristle bundles (4) of one of the individual rows and/or those of an adjacent one of the individual rows with ones of the bristle bundles of a different length are arranged at least partially rotated relative to each other.

15. (New) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein inclination angles of the inclined surfaces (5) formed at the ends of the bristle bundles (4) are different relative to other ones of the bristle bundles.

16. (New) Toothbrush according to Claim 1, wherein the inclined surfaces (5) of the at least some of bristle bundle (4) are curved concavely in one or more directions.